

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, FR

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR SAUVAGNARGUES

PLEASE TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FOREIGN
MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES: QUOTE.

DEAR JEAN:

I WAS DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN AT HELSINKI AND
ESPECIALLY PLEASED THAT WE ARE BRINGING TOGETHER OUR IDEAS
ON RESUMING THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE. THANK YOU FOR
YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 7 CONTAINING THE MODIFICATIONS YOU
PROPOSE INCLUDING IN YOUR CONSENSUS PROPOSAL. IT IS MY
UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU PLAN TO DISPATCH THIS CONSENSUS
PROPOSAL BY THE END OF NEXT WEEK, WHICH I WOULD SUPPORT
SUBJECT TO A FINAL UNDERSTANDING ON ITS BASIC PROVISIONS.

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WITH REGARD TO THE POINTS COVERED IN YOUR MESSAGE,
I HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

A. I AM IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH YOUR FORMULATION
OF A TEXT ON THE FOURTH COMMISSION, AS QUOTED IN THE
THIRD PARAGRAPH OF YOUR LETTER.

B. WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH
COMMISSION I FEEL THAT THE QUOTE FIGURE OF 15 UNQUOTE
REPRESENTS AN ESSENTIAL LIMITATION ON THE SIZE OF THE
COMMISSIONS IF WE ARE SERIOUS IN OUR INTENT TO SEEK
POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE RESULTS FROM THIS EFFORT. FURTHER-
MORE, THIS REPRESENTS THE UPPER SIDE OF THE RANGE OF
VIEWS EXPRESSED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VARIOUS PART-
ICIPATING COUNTRIES WITH WHOM WE HAD HAD BILATERAL DISCUS-
SIONS. ALTHOUGH INDIA WOULD INCREASE THE MAXIMUM LIMIT
THIS WOULD CONFLICT WITH THE CONSENSUS VIEW OF THE OTHER
PARTICIPANTS. YOUR SUGGESTION TO FINESSE THIS ISSUE BY
STATING THAT THE COMMISSIONS QUOTE BE SMALLER THAN THAT
OF THE CONFERENCE UNQUOTE WILL, I FEAR, GENERATE CONFUSION
AND DELAY ARRIVING AT A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION OF THIS
ISSUE.

C. THE QUESTION OF THE TIMING OF THE SECOND
MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING OF THE GROUP OF 27 IS ONE WHICH
WE HAVE DISCUSSED. I REGRET THAT, FOR REASONS YOU UNDER-
STAND, I CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THIS MEETING SHOULD NOT
BE HELD UNTIL AFTER AN INTERVAL OF 12 MONTHS. IN MY VIEW,
IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT MINISTERS TO RECONVENE ON
THESE ISSUES IN LESS THAN 12 MONTHS AND CERTAINLY THIS
PERIOD OF TIME WILL BE REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE MEANINGFUL
RESULTS FROM THE COMMISSION EFFORTS. I WOULD NOT INSIST
THAT THE MEETING BE PRECISELY 12 MONTHS LATER AND COULD
AGREE TO THE EXPRESSION QUOTE APPROXIMATELY UNQUOTE 12
MONTHS. IT IS MY VIEW THAT THE 6 TO 12 MONTHS FORMULATION
WOULD PROVOKE AN ARGUMENT IN THE INITIAL MEETING WHICH
MIGHT DOOM THE PREPCON TO FAILURE BEFORE IT GETS UNDERWAY,
A RISK WHICH WE BOTH SEEK TO AVOID.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WOULD PREFER NOT TO INCLUDE THE
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QUESTION OF OBSERVER STATUS IN YOUR CONSENSUS PROPOSAL
BUT PLAN TO DEAL WITH THAT ORALLY. I DO NOT OBJECT TO
THIS APPROACH BUT WOULD LIKE TO RECONFIRM MY POSITION
THAT THE IEA SHOULD HAVE A RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN AND
SPEAK AT THE ENERGY COMMISSION MEETINGS. ACCEPTANCE OF
THIS BY OTHER PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN ADVANCE WOULD BE
A CONDITION FOR OUR AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A
RECONVENED PROPCON.

- AT THE OTHER PROCEDURAL ISSUES WILL BE
I UNDERSTAND THAT THE OTHER PROCEDURAL ISSUES WILL BE
DEALT WITH SUBSTANTIALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXT YOU
SHOWED ME AT HELSINKI.

I SHARE YOUR INTEREST IN PROCEEDING WITHOUT DELAY IN
THE ISSUANCE OF YOUR CONSENSUS PROPOSAL WHICH IS A KEY
STEP FOR RESUMING THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE. HOWEVER,
I WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT THE FOREGOING MEETS
WITH YOUR APPROVAL TO INSURE THAT WE CAN NOW PROCEED IN
FULL AGREEMENT ON THE PROCEDURAL PLAN. WARMEST REGARDS.
HENRY A. KISSINGER. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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